

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS23182C1

The Coeur d'Alene-Spokane River Basin Adjudication (CSRBA), now pending in the Fifth Judicial District Court, is currently at a procedural stage which would be conducive to resolution, through negotiation between the State of Idaho, Coeur d'Alene Tribe and the other water users in the Basin to determine the nature and extent of the valid water rights within the Basin.

Representatives of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe have expressed their willingness to engage in full, frank and honest negotiations with the State of Idaho, with an opportunity for participation by affected water users, to resolve the nature and extent of the Tribe's reserved water rights within the Basin.

Through this Concurrent Resolution by the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, the Legislature encourages and requests that such negotiations be held between the parties, with the reasonable expectation that such negotiations will be successful and will best protect existing water uses, address the unique characteristics of the region. The previous long history of cooperation and amicably resolving differences between the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and the State of Idaho strongly support such expectations. Negotiations, in hope of avoiding litigation (with its uncertainties and substantial expense), is in the best interest of all stakeholders.

FISCAL NOTE

It is anticipated that there will be no additional fiscal impact to the adjudication process as a result of this resolution. It is further anticipated that adjudication will result in a significant cost savings over litigation.

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